

Recreational Trespass

This law requires permission from the landowner or lease holder before you may hunt on any farmlands or connected woodlots or on any fenced or posted private lands and prohibits discharge of a firearm within the right-of-way of public roads adjacent to these lands without permission of the landowner.

Wild Turkey Cooperator Patch

The Michigan chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation, in partnership with the DNR, is coordinating Michigan's wild turkey patch program.

Young hunters, ages 12-17, who have a valid wild turkey hunting license may receive a free patch. Adult hunters, collectors and other interested individuals may purchase the patch for \$5, which includes postage and handling. To receive a patch, please send name and complete address, along with a legible copy of the youth's valid wild turkey hunting license, to National Wild Turkey Federation, Wild Turkey Patch Program, P.O. Box 8, Orleans, MI 48865. Individuals who are purchasing the patch should make their check or money order payable to the National Wild Turkey Federation. You do not have to harvest a turkey to purchase a patch.

The NWTF is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of the American wild turkey and the preservation of the hunting tradition. Proceeds from patch sales will be used to fund wild turkey-related projects in Michigan. Each year the NWTF, working cooperatively with the DNR, contributes more than \$300,000 to wild turkey and hunter-heritage programs in Michigan.



Fall Turkey Hunting Hours

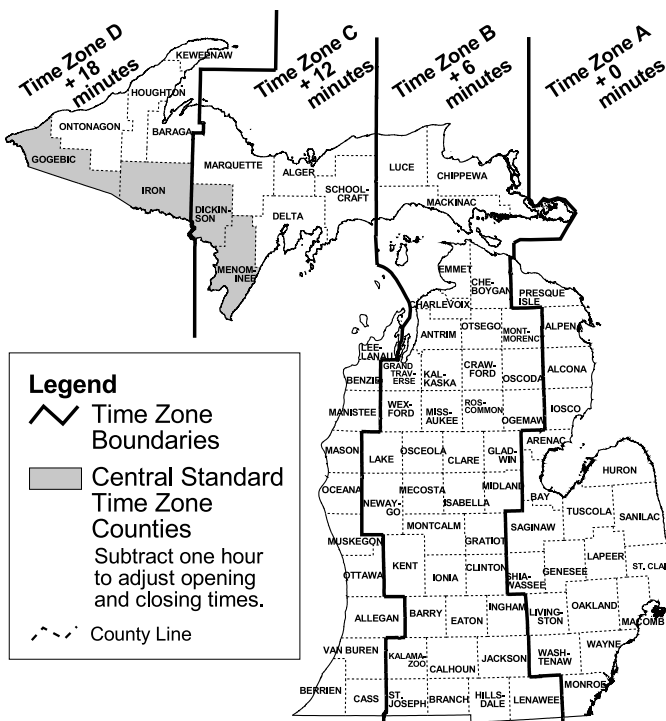
Below is a map of the 2004 hunting hour zones. Actual legal hunting hours (one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset) for Zone A are printed below. To determine the opening (a.m.) or closing (p.m.) time for any day in another zone, add the minutes shown on the map for the zone to the time from the Zone A table.

The hunting hour listed in the table reflects Eastern Standard Time adjusted for Daylight Savings Time where appropriate. If you are hunting in **Dickinson or Menominee** counties (Central Standard Time), you must make an additional adjustment to the printed time by subtracting one hour.

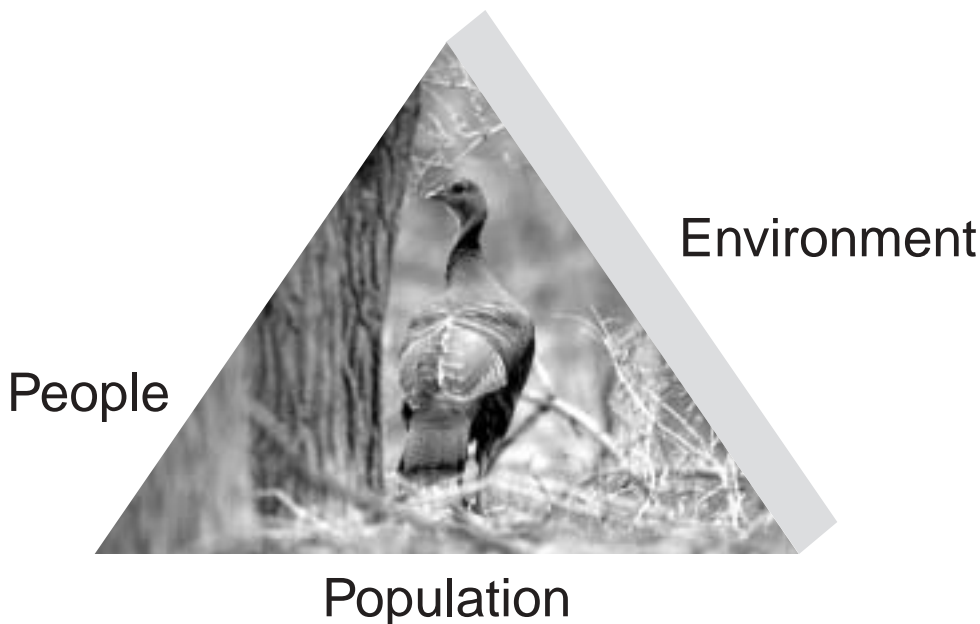
Zone A Hunting Hours Table.

One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset (adjusted for Daylight Savings Time).

Add the minutes indicated below to the times listed in Table A.



2004	Oct.		Nov.	
Date	AM	PM	AM	PM
1			6:40	5:56
2			6:41	5:55
3			6:42	5:54
4	7:06	7:40	6:44	5:52
5	7:07	7:38	6:45	5:51
6	7:08	7:36	6:46	5:50
7	7:09	7:35	6:48	5:49
8	7:11	7:33	6:49	5:48
9	7:12	7:31	6:50	5:47
10	7:13	7:30		
11	7:14	7:28		
12	7:15	7:26		
13	7:16	7:25		
14	7:18	7:23		
15	7:19	7:21		
16	7:20	7:20		
17	7:21	7:18		
18	7:22	7:17		
19	7:24	7:15		
20	7:25	7:13		
21	7:26	7:12		
22	7:27	7:10		
23	7:29	7:09		
24	7:30	7:07		
25	7:31	7:06		
26	7:32	7:04		
27	7:34	7:03		
28	7:35	7:02		
29	7:36	7:00		
30	7:37	6:59		
31	6:39	5:58		



Wild Turkey Management

Managing wild turkeys in Michigan involves the complex interactions of turkey populations, their habitat and their relationship to people. Hunting plays an important role in the management of turkeys by regulating their numbers. The goal of the spring wild turkey hunting season is to maximize hunter opportunity while maintaining a satisfactory hunting experience. Limited to gobblers only, this conservative harvest approach has allowed the continued growth and expansion of the wild turkey population in Michigan. Wild turkey hunting in the fall enables the DNR to stabilize or reduce wild turkey numbers in certain areas of the state to meet local goals based on habitat conditions and public attitudes. License quotas are developed to harvest the desired number of turkeys to meet the management goal. To help reach these goals, hunters are encouraged to harvest female turkeys during the fall season.

Understanding West Nile Virus

There have been cases of human infection occurring when laboratory personnel have accidentally cut themselves while examining infected birds. Therefore, as a precaution against blood-borne pathogens (both viral and bacterial), hunters should wear rubber or latex gloves when handling, cleaning, and butchering dead animals. Tools used when processing gamebirds should be disinfected after use with bleach (10% solution) and then washed in soapy water and reused.

No humans have been infected by consuming the meat of an infected bird. However, the meat of birds should be cooked thoroughly; heating to an internal temperature of 170 to 180 degrees F. Cooking to this temperature will kill the West Nile virus (WNV) as well as other viruses and bacteria, eliminating any possible chance of infection.

If you see a turkey that appears to be acting abnormally (inability to fly, abnormal head posture, disoriented, having seizures), we are be interested in testing this bird for WNV. Please contact your local DNR Field Office.

More information and Field Office locations are available on the WNV website at www.michigan.gov/emergingdiseases

Turkey Hunter Reporting Option

Turkey hunters we need your help. After your hunting season has ended, please report your hunting activity on the Internet by visiting the Hunting section or Wild Turkey page at www.michigan.gov/dnr. Participation in this program is important to the future of turkey hunting. Information you provide will improve turkey management and ensure decisions regarding hunting seasons are based on the best information available.

Wild Turkey Hunting Tips, Ethics and Safety

An important component to successful fall turkey hunting is locating birds. Scout for tracks, fresh droppings and feathers. Good areas for sighting flocks are in idle fields and woodlands and near logging trails.

In fall, turkeys spend most of their time feeding on insects and mast crops like acorns. Locate a good food source where birds are congregating and learn the habits of the birds.